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Date**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

IN RE APPLICATION OF

Group Art Unit: 1714

FRANÇOIS GUGUMUS

Examiner: V. Hoke

APPLICATION NO: 09/811,960

FILED: MARCH 19, 2001

FOR: STABILIZER MIXTURE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Applicant presents this Preliminary Amendment in this continuation application to put the instant claims in better condition for examination on their merits. Pending claims in the parent application, application Ser. No. 09/811,960, are rejected in an Office Action, Paper No. 4, dated October 2, 2001. The action set a shortened statutory period of three months to respond, which due date is January 2, 2002. A petition for a three (3) month extension of time to respond is submitted to make the parent co-pending with this continuation application.